Seattle Industrial Areas Freight Access Project - Overview

Purpose

The purposes of the Seattle Industrial Areas Freight Access Project are to support and promote regional and international economic competitiveness and lay the groundwork for a more comprehensive Seattle Freight Master Plan. The project will do this by identifying and initiating solutions to freight mobility, circulation and access needs within and between:

- the Greater Duwamish and Ballard/Interbay Northend Manufacturing and Industrial Centers (MICs); and
- connecting corridors from the centers to the regional transportation system, including the interstate and state highways, Port of Seattle facilities and local rail yards.

Project Goals

Assess opportunities and initiate solutions within the study area to:

1. Maintain and improve freight-truck mobility and access to accommodate expected freight and cargo growth
2. Ensure connectivity for major freight intermodal and transload facilities
3. Increase safety for all travel modes
4. Coordinate freight decisions with planned multi-modal improvements
5. Reduce environmental impacts, including greenhouse gas emissions

Objectives

1. Assess existing conditions, data needs, trends, and future conditions for long-haul, regional, drayage and urban pick-up/delivery truck-freight movement needs
2. Identify, evaluate, and recommend operational improvements, including options for freight truck priority on Major Truck Streets and Port terminal connector routes
3. Identify project, policy and programmatic issues for further evaluation within a comprehensive Seattle Freight Master Plan
4. Identify potential design guideline revisions for the Seattle Right-of-Way Improvements Manual
5. Identify, evaluate, and recommend capital improvements
6. Identify potential changes to the city's Major Truck Streets network
7. Develop and categorize implementing actions as near-term, mid-term and long-term
8. Engage key stakeholders throughout the study process